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# Extension Service *Review*

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## On the docket for June

■ VE-day is behind us, but a re-appraisal of problems on the home front shows that many will be intensified this summer. As we learn more about conditions in the liberated countries, the need for food and more food proves even more urgent. There is little hope that the farm labor situation will ease up for the 1945 harvest. Even now emergency labor needs are building up to a peak in the United States.

As we go to press, WFA has been assured by the War Department that prisoners of war definitely will be available for farm work this season. Some 85,000 will be available at the peak of the summer harvest season. Additional numbers will be requested for use in the fall harvest. In addition to this help from prisoners of war and foreign workers, however, the need continues urgent in many areas for emergency volunteer workers from towns and cities as well as rural areas.

With the discharge of veterans under the point system gaining momentum, the work of the agricultural advisory committees has passed the planning stage. Since VE-Day, practical farmers have been going into action to circumvent defeat for the veterans on the farm front. Booming prices and real estate promotion schemes are two of the agricultural land mines which veterans, with all their battle lore, may not be prepared to dodge.

The Presidential proclamation of

May 9 for National Farm-Safety Week, July 22-29, gives national support to local safety campaigns. Farm people must realize the urgent wartime need of stopping needless waste of manpower and property caused by preventable accidents. A kit of suggestions for bringing the facts to local communities is being sent to extension agents by the National Safety Council.

Food preservation activities are stepped up. It looks as though the civilian supply of commercially canned goods might be as much as 25 percent lower than last year, adding urgency to the home canning program. Sugar supplies are low, but there should be enough sugar to do more canning than was ever done before if canning sugar is used only for canning and stretched as far as possible. Kits of suggestions for

stimulating more food preservation in the local community have gone out to home demonstration agents. No food must go to waste this year.

Victory gardeners carry on with renewed efforts in the battle against insects and disease which threaten crops this year. A new reason for growing Victory Gardens was supplied by the chief of police in Hackensack, N. J., who asserts there are no gardeners among those arraigned before the department for crime. He says: "Those who get close to the soil seldom get into trouble. I really feel that if everyone were to engage in cultivation of a plot of ground, our department would have little to do."

As this goes to press, the Bankhead-Flannagan amendment to the Bankhead-Jones Bill authorizing an increase in extension funds of \$12,500,000 during a 3-year period has passed both houses of Congress and has gone to committee to iron out the differences.

## Rural policy committee meets

■ The Orleans County, Vt., rural policy committee meets to consider what policies should be observed in guiding veterans and other war workers who want to buy farms after the war.

The meeting was called to order by

County Agent Roger D. Whitcomb (standing). Representatives of the local press, home demonstration clubs, farm organizations and others study the State handbook on getting started in farming and make the modifications necessary for Orleans County.



### IN THIS ISSUE

Food takes first place—Minnesota tells how to get it grown and Nebraska how to save it—A Washington agent writes on planning his program—Montana reports on a radio school, California on the expansion of cork oak, South Dakota on home demonstration news writing, New York on the 4-H battle against cattle grub, and Oklahoma on figures that talk.



# Every man does his part

C. L. McNELLY, District County Agent Leader, Minnesota

■ Looking back over the 1944 war food production program, Minnesota extension people are convinced that never before has so much been accomplished in so short a time as through this campaign. This program was set up on the theory that every civilian on the home front must do everything possible to help win the war. The extension job was primarily to assist and encourage farmers in every way possible in the field of food production. We believed sincerely that an abundance of food would help shorten the war and save lives. Agents with attractive offers in other fields stayed on the job because they, too, believed they could serve their country better in this important field.

The background planning for the Minnesota 1944 program was initiated by a committee consisting of supervisors and key specialists appointed for the purpose by Director Paul E. Miller. Preliminary planning was done by this committee, after which department heads at the agricultural college were asked to bring in the latest results in research from their respective fields to present specific recommendations as to what would contribute most to the war effort.

The program was built around improved practices which were not as widely used as they could be, and which if generally adopted would save labor and at the same time substantially increase food and feed production. These practices included: (1) Seed treatment, (2) more extensive use of fertilizers, (3) increased use of hybrid seed corn, (4) greater use of Vicland and Tama oats, (5) cutting hay earlier to increase protein content, (6) making greater use of legume grass pastures and using better pasture management practices, (7) more use of labor-saving equipment.

Any one of these practices was important enough to be used as a major project. Whether all could be effectively tied into one program was seriously questioned. However, it was decided to attempt this, with the county agricultural agent—recognized as the agricultural leader with the most prestige and authority in the

county—presenting the subject-matter material at as many meetings as possible. Special devices were, of course, used to develop interest and to make the presentation effective.

A contrast exhibit, showing seedling wheat grown from treated and untreated seed in a window box, was used in display windows and at practically all meetings conducted by agents.

A set of five charts, prepared at the State office, was supplied to all agents. The charts showed experiment station results from: (1) Treating seed grain with Ceresan, (2) yield increased from Vicland and Tama oats, (3) increased protein content of hay cut at different stages of growth, (4) average yield increases from use of fertilizer, (5) yield and carrying capacity of legume grass mixtures compared with ordinary pasture grasses.

Much publicity was used; 200,000 copies of each of 2 folders were printed. One was on Better Quality Hay, and the other, Avoiding the Summer Milk Slump. The creameries of the State cooperated in the distribution of these folders, handing or sending them to each patron.

## Farm People Back Program

In a series of county program-planning meetings held in every county of Minnesota, farm people were found to be wholeheartedly back of this food-production program. Our slogan was "No matter how much food is produced, it will not be enough." Farmers as well as extension workers pledged themselves to encourage the adoption of improved practices that promised to increase production.

The intensive food-production program was started in January 1944 and was carried on until the crops were in the ground. Following the spring planting, other phases were taken up, such as the programs to cut hay early for higher protein content and to increase carrying capacity through the use of better pasture-management practices.

In carrying out this program, agricultural agents themselves held 2,069

meetings with an attendance of 128,731 people. This number represents approximately two-thirds of the farmers of the State of Minnesota. An average of 24 meetings with an average attendance of 62 were held per county. The average attendance per county was 1,488.

In order to get an approximate measure of results at the end of the year, county agents made surveys among dealers to ascertain the amount of Ceresan and Semesan sold for grain and corn treatment. Agents reported that 128,605 pounds of Ceresan were sold for use in treating seed grains in 1944, as compared with 74,276 pounds used in 1943. This was an increase of 73 percent, or 54,328 pounds.

Agents reported 3,753,272 bushels of seed grain and corn treated for disease control in 1944, as compared with 2,319,817 in 1943, an increase of 1,415,455 bushels.

## Vicland and Tama Oats

Agents likewise made a survey among farmers, seedsmen, elevator men, and dealers as to the increased use of Vicland and Tama oats in 1944 as compared with previous years. This survey indicated that 2,137,404 acres were planted to Vicland and Tama oats in 1944, as compared with 780,050 acres in 1943, or an increase of 1,418,754 acres in 1 year. This acreage represented a 295 percent increase over the previous year.

Agents estimate that, on the average, Vicland and Tama varieties out-yield other varieties by 10 bushels per acre. This fact is supported by Minnesota Experiment Station results over a 3-year period. If we assume that this 10-bushel increase is approximately correct, then the 1944 campaign increased the Minnesota oats crop by 14,154,000 bushels. At the market price for oats of 75 cents per bushel, this amount of oats would be worth approximately \$11,000,000.

Agents estimate 815,538 acres of early-cut legume hay in 1944 as compared with 690,731 acres in 1943—an increase of 124,807 acres, or 18 percent. In estimates of early-cut hay, other than legumes, there was a total of 577,707 acres cut in 1944, as compared with 356,002 acres in 1943, an increase of 221,705 acres or 61 percent. Likewise, county agents re-



ported 78,320 acres more legume grass pasture or 14 percent increase in 1944 as compared with the previous year, and an increase in the use of supplementary pastures including Sudan grass, oats, rye, and other mixtures of 134,859 acres or 61 percent in 1944 compared with the previous year.

County agents report only a slight increase in the use of commercial fertilizers, this being due to the limited supply available.

As a part of the labor-saving equipment program, 4,740 push rakes were made to facilitate handling hay and grain. This is 1,762 more than in 1943, or a 63 percent increase.

Never before in our extension history has such a unified and comprehensive program been carried out. Farmers had a job to do. Being con-

scious of obstacles and limitations, they called at the extension office, they attended meetings, and they asked questions. The war incentive was paramount. Farmers were determined to do their part. Men, women, and children worked as never before. County extension agents likewise had a job to do and did it. Never before in extension history have agents put in such long hours and worked so untiringly. They should, and no doubt will, receive broad recognition for the outstanding educational work in the war food production program. We are fully aware that extension agents everywhere have made the same great contribution. We are proud of the work they have done and trust that St. Peter has made ample record in his big book.

most of the publicity agencies used as a guide was a pamphlet edited by the extension agronomists setting out the situation and making suggestions for the proper handling of the wet corn. No one promised that the getting of the wet corn off the ground and into well-floored and well-ventilated cribs would be the solution to all the problems that the farmer might have. Some of the corn was carrying more than 30 percent moisture.

The newspapers and the radio stations spearheaded the campaign. Governor Griswold designated February 19 to 26 as "Save the Corn Week." County extension agents organized neighborhood labor crews and handled the publicity locally.

County commissioners and railroads made snow fence available to help meet the material shortage for the making of cribs. The State Highway Commission and the Naval Ordnance Depot in the State did the same thing with the materials that they had on hand. The State Department even canceled its priority on 60,000 feet of snow fence so that it would be available for cribbing. The AAA and the lumbermen's association cooperated in moving the necessary lumber from the areas where it was plentiful to the areas where it was badly needed.

The Industrial Alcohol plant at Omaha installed machinery that enabled them to use 30,000 bushels of wet corn daily. The Army made machines designed for preheating plane motors available to the farmers for drying corn.

Farmers themselves met the challenge of saving the corn with ingenuity that only a farmer possesses. Some of them made cribs out of scrap lumber and old wire and pieces of machinery found on their farms. Many a home-made manure loader was converted into a machine for loading corn. Farm elevators were made, lent, and borrowed. Home-made drying devices were put into operation.

Now as warm weather has come to Nebraska, the State committee that headed the campaign, the farmers, and all those who cooperated with them in this campaign are watching to determine just how much of the great crop so badly needed in the war effort has been saved. No one expected to save all of it, but everyone wants the percentage to be as high as possible.

## Campaign to save wet corn moves 90 million bushels

■ Between January 22 and March 22, Nebraska farmers literally picked up 90 million bushels of wet corn off the ground and put it into well-floored and well-ventilated cribs. They did it to save it from spoilage.

During this time Nebraska had several wet snows; many sections of the State had an acute shortage of materials with which to make cribs, and all sections of the State were suffering from an acute farm labor shortage.

The 90 million bushels was the lion's share of the 103 million bushels of corn that Nebraska farmers produced in 1944 for which there were no cribs at corn-husking time.

The total crop of corn produced in Nebraska in 1944 was just a little short of 330 million bushels. It was the largest crop of corn ever produced in the State, and sections of the State that have been hard hit with drought during the last several years prior to 1944 reported yields that gave the entire State an average of 37 bushels to the acre.

Everybody in Nebraska knew last fall that the State had produced a great crop, and most Nebraskans were worried that there would not be enough labor in the State to harvest the crop. Every available mechanical corn picker and every available person who could pick corn were put to work. The idea was to get the corn out of

the field. Much more of it was piled on the ground than would have been had there been no feeling of rush.

After the harvest of most of the corn there followed one of the wettest winter seasons in the history of the State. The corn was wet to start with, and misty rains and fogs caused the corn to actually accumulate moisture during the months that followed even though it was well cribbed.

Extension agronomists at the University of Nebraska, College of Agriculture, realizing that the corn not properly cribbed was due for serious deterioration, called a meeting in January. Invited to this meeting were farmers, representatives of farm organizations, railroads, press, radio, and AAA, grain dealers, and lumbermen.

At this meeting it was brought out that most of the country elevators were full. There were few railroad cars with which to move the crop to market, and drying facilities at the terminal markets were adequate to dry only a very small part of the corn even though it could be shipped at the terminals.

A committee was set up to work out a solution to the problem.

There followed one of the greatest publicity campaigns that ever had anything to do with an agricultural subject in Nebraska. The text that



# How plan the program?

ALLAN JOHNSON, County Agent, Thurston County, Wash.

When Allan Johnson told about developing an extension program in his county at the annual meeting for new extension workers which precedes the annual State conference, the other agents liked it. As agents in other States might also find his ideas helpful, they are set down here as he gave them to his fellow agents.

■ All counties embracing rural populations have leaders, trained to some degree in various phases of rural activity. These leaders have objectives to be accomplished. So has Extension. Isn't it better for us both to pool our resources and work together rather than to go down the road each in his own way?

## Seeing Community Problems

If we join forces, isn't it just as fair for us to go into each community to see the community problems through the eyes of local leaders as for them to come to the county seat to be indoctrinated with the county agent's problems? I firmly believe that the community approach is the only way in which we can get down to the grass roots of problems in each of the 36 communities in Thurston County. It is the only way that our objectives can become identical.

## Winter Months Best for Meetings

The months of November, December, January, and February are best for holding planning meetings in our county. Farmers are not so rushed with work. However, yearly meetings are not always necessary. Sometimes the plans of the previous year's meeting are still up to date and have not as yet been completed.

These meetings are held at a community center or a farm home where those interested are urged to attend. We never select the leaders and others who are to participate. To do so would be to select those whose personalities fuse with ours and to eliminate those whose ideas, though different, may prove extremely helpful. The community groups elect those whom they wish to serve on committees and otherwise participate in an extension program.

We usually first have a round-table discussion concerning the problems within the community. And these problems may be land clearing, drainage, buildings, electricity, community centers, entertainment,

health, education, soils and fertility, new crops, various other enterprises, and last but not least, our rural youth.

Out of this discussion grow conviction as to what are major and minor problems, which are of short or of long duration, which problems can be solved by the community itself, and which may need attention from some other source. The agent's responsibility in these meetings is to help the group select objectives or goals that will indicate broad accomplishments.

Whenever these objectives become common among several communities, we call a county-wide meeting of community representatives to consider these problems on a county-wide basis. For example: Weeds, a constant source of irritation to every farmer. At the county-wide planning meeting in January 1944, the chairman was asked to select a committee to study this problem. The committee met with the agent and specialist, listed the weeds in the order of their seriousness of infestation, got information on control measures, studied weed-control laws, and submitted a report, together with their recommendations for a weed-control program, to 53 leaders in the county. This year at the January county-wide meeting these leaders, who studied this report, were ready for the discussion and adoption of a post-war program for weed control in Thurston County.

As time goes on, we should beware of wasted motion lest we in our enthusiasm forget the work of others and spend time repeating work that has already been done. A study of annual reports previously written may reveal accomplishments or answers to the problems raised. The Thurston County annual report of 1938 indicated that a special manual on land use had been written as a corollary to the land-use map. This will prove extremely helpful when

gathering information for the settlement of war veterans and post-war workers. We almost embarked on a program of getting this information during the next few months.

If a job to be done involves several persons or organizations, their responsibilities should be sharply defined. For instance, committees in two of our communities were elected to make arrangements for land to be used for fertilizer and forage crop trials. The work was to be done by the committee, the experiment station to furnish the materials and the specialist and agent to check on the progress made regularly and to determine results. I feel somewhat guilty in admitting that these committees have done the better job. We from the college ought to do more next year lest we be weighed on the scales and found wanting. Constant checking (every month if necessary) with attention given to details is on the calendar for the duration of this project. This checking will make it easier for the agent to write progress reports and analyses, which should be made available to the community leaders at least once a year.

We contact our 475 leaders in the county once a month with a circular letter giving helpful information which does not appear through other channels. And we sometimes include accomplishments on various projects under way or being completed.

## Change to a Community Basis

At the request of the community leaders, we reorganized our 4-H Club work from a strict project basis to a combination project—community basis.

Our 4-H leaders asked for training so as to be successful in the eyes of their youth. We tried to meet this responsibility by maintaining an active leaders' council for leader training on a broad basis. This council usually meets once a month. We look upon this as our number one job, as the successful 4-H members of today can well be the rural and urban leaders of tomorrow.

Little has been said about the farm visit. Yet, to me, the techniques of making a farm visit are highly important in determining the activities of cooperators so as to meet the objectives desired. Pure service calls do little toward the building of an

extension program. Service calls do provide an opening, however, for the agent to obtain information and to give information which will aid in the development of an extension program.

I have said little concerning specialists and project plans or plans of work as we know them today. After 9 years in the Extension Service, I found myself in this dilemma of writing two sets of project plans, one for the specialist before our annual reports have cooled off, and the other based on community and county needs as determined, not on a project basis, but on a farm and home basis, for better rural living.

The Extension Service today is

different from what it was 10 years ago, 20 years ago, or 30 years ago. It has grown in size, it has grown by reason of its accomplishments, it has grown in the responsibilities given it for the future; and we must all keep pace.

Today we must recognize the change in the training of rural people. Many have gone to college; many have been in some phase of educational work; many have specialized in certain fields of endeavor. Let us respect the layman's thinking and through his leadership cooperate in developing a more effective program. This is our challenge and responsibility to better serve our rural people.

## Radio schools in Montana

LOUIS G. TRUE, Extension Editor, Montana

■ If radio stations in Montana broadcast silver-toned, superbly phrased, and effective county agent programs starting very soon, the credit will go to the faculty headed by Ken Gapen, U.S.D.A. Radio Service representative in the Far West, and Ernest Neath, manager of KRBM, Bozeman, Mont., who conducted radio schools during March.

Two schools were held. The first was at Miles City, March 23 and 24. Attendance was 13, the same as the Helena school held March 26 and 27.

They were work sessions from start to finish with agents' attention focused on the practical points that make farm broadcasts effective.

J. C. Taylor, director of the Montana Extension Service, opened the school at Miles City with an address, *Why Agents Should Use Radio*. T. B. Holker, acting county agent leader, substituted for Director Taylor at Helena. These addresses set the stage for both schools.

From there the schools went into what Montana stations want, with Mr. Neath doing the telling. He urged making programs entertaining; emphasized public service, local news and information; the need for coherent, well-thought-out and well-voiced programs. Gapen covered this at Helena.

To build up a greater consciousness of the obligation agents owe local stations, Henry Schacht, director of agriculture, KPO, San Francisco, cut

a record entitled *What Makes a Farm Program Tick and Click*. This was voted an "excellent program hitting at the points most needed," by students who attended the schools.

To stimulate further interest, Neath at Miles City and Gapen at Helena gave a preview of radio in the future. This included frequency modulation, television, and facsimile.

Switching back to the present, Gapen gave the agents innumerable tips and suggestions for programming. These include script versus note, use of local people, importance of local news, how to prepare monologs, dialogs, and discussions. This ended with several outlines agents could use.

Following these talks, agents were given a prepared set of facts on gardening and told to write 4-minute talks. The notes contained facts which should not be used on radio as well as those that should. Before writing, score cards on good writing and presentation were explained by Gapen.

The talks prepared by agents were recorded in the afternoon of the first day. These were played back, and Ernest Neath; Gapen; Louis G. True, director of publications; and H. M. White, assistant director of publications, criticized them. Criticisms were specific, frank, and all-inclusive. The "students" asked for more.

The second day, the schools opened with reports from agents. These disclosed that all Montana stations are

cooperating wholeheartedly; give 15-minute periods at least once a week graciously; give added time for announcements, and extend some program help occasionally.

The schools closed with a second recording of about 4 minutes, written by agents. Each showed marked improvement over the preceding program, and each agent took back his second record to play at his home. All records for this purpose were cut at 78 rpm.

At the close of the two schools, the faculty had an informal round-table discussion of the schools which resulted in a listing of nearly 25 ways of improving future radio schools.

In spite of these expected improvements, the schools were most gratifying to the faculty. Agents asked for annual and longer schools. They arose nearly an hour earlier than usual to be there for the opening session, remained an hour longer at night, and then used the intermission periods to ask more questions.

Brief notes covering the bulk of the information given out and learned at each school was compiled the day after the last school and mailed to county agents.

## Plan Negro 4-H camp

"A Georgia State camp for Negro 4-H Clubs is in the books just as soon as war conditions permit," reports P. H. Stone, State agent for Negro work. Nearly \$3,000 has been collected by Negro 4-H members for the erection of the camp at Dublin. The money has been put into war bonds until needed.

A 30-acre site on the Oconee River was deeded to the Extension Service by the city of Dublin for the camp. An artesian well providing 120 gallons of water per minute has been bored on the site and paid for by Negro citizens of Dublin and Laurens County. Underbrush has been cleared by 4-H members and roads laid out by J. C. Oglesbee, Jr., former extension engineer. The grading was done by county forces.

One building, a community canning plant of cement block construction has been erected. This was financed by people in and around Dublin.



# Cork oak acorns coast to coast

■ More than 850,000 California cork oak acorns were distributed last winter in 8 Southern States in an attempt to develop a domestic supply of cork, Woodbridge Metcalf, forester of the California Extension Service, reported.

Carolina; and the other 6,000 pounds were delivered in Baltimore and placed in moist cold storage for distribution this spring to the tier of States north of those named.

Even if only a small fraction of the seed develops into cork oak trees,

State Veterinary College and the entomology and animal husbandry departments at Cornell University have held launching meetings and demonstrations in every community.

All farmers owning herds in the areas have been asked to cooperate, as control measures are most effective when all neighboring herds are treated.

The size of the project takes on major proportions when all aspects of the campaign are considered. One item alone, 9,300 pounds of cattle grub dust for the 23 counties, is an indication. Harold A. Willman, dairy and livestock specialist of the agricultural college, based the need for cattle grub control demonstrations on statements of both dairymen and research workers.

They said that 25 percent, or 500,000 New York State cattle are infected—an annual loss in milk, meat, and leather of thousands of dollars.

Research demonstrations conducted in one county, Clinton, in 1943, showed that in 1 year dairymen could reduce the loss by at least 90 percent.

Forty 4-H Clubs have responded by preparing lists of all herds in their communities, by distributing bulletins and posters to every farmer, and by obtaining their cooperation. The club members treated approximately 25,000 cattle during early April and again in early May. The bulletin used is Cornell War Emergency Bulletin 69, Control of Cattle Grubs, by Prof. H. H. Schwardt of the entomology department.

Professor Schwardt gave the following figures to indicate the damage caused by the grubs:

Forty-two percent of all cattle passing through United States stockyards are grubby.

Discoloration around meat causes a loss of about 2 pounds of meat per animal.

Packers devalue grubby cattle 2 cents a pound. There is a loss of \$3.80 per grubby animal to the packer.

Seventy-five million dollars are lost yearly in the United States through the cattle grub.

The dust used in the control program consists of one part of 5 percent rotenone powder mixed with three parts of pyrophyllite.

The grubs are sometimes known as



This truck was driven 4,300 miles, from San Francisco to Baltimore, having left California loaded with 12,000 pounds of cork oak acorns and considerable cork bark stripped from California trees.

In company with two members of a national cork and seal company, Mr. Metcalf made a 4,300-mile tour, approved by the Office of Defense Transportation and endorsed by departments of forestry of eight Southern States. The company furnished a huge truck-and-trailer for transporting the 12,000 pounds of California acorns. Half of the acorns were left for propagation purposes in Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and South

there should be a satisfactory local acorn supply for continued plantings in areas where the cork oak tree shows its ability to grow.

During the last 4 years 150,000 cork oak seedlings have been established in California. At some future time cork from these American-grown trees, the bulk of them to be found on farms, will help supply the national requirements for a war material which became critical when the Mediterranean supply was cut off.

## 4-H campaigns against cattle grub

■ Cattle grubs, the home-front enemy of dairy cows, will soon know what it is like to come up against the armed might of several hundreds of New York State 4-H Club members who have undertaken to help the farmers rid the herds of the pest.

The well-organized cattle grub eradication program has been planned with the cooperation of the War

Food Administration, and 23 counties where grubs are particularly a problem are combining their efforts to stamp out the saboteurs. County 4-H Club agents are handling publicity, organization records, and prizes for clubs doing the best work. A sum of \$400 will be distributed among the top-ranking clubs and among high-scoring individuals.

Ten specialists from the New York



warbles and develop from heel flies or warble flies that lay their eggs on the lower parts of the cow's legs. These eggs hatch in 4 to 6 days during normal spring weather into tiny grubs that bore a hole through the animal's skin. From there they enter the flesh for feeding. It is estimated that the average amount of damage they do is at least \$5 an animal.

The county 4-H agents have publicized the campaign widely in their respective areas, pointing out that the loss is not only to damaged hides and meat but also in lowered milk production resulting from disturb-

ances caused to grazing herds by adult heel flies.

Need for the region-wide effort was deemed necessary because the greatest return comes when it is carried out over a considerable area.

Enthusiasm of the club members is high because this is one "home front" job that will accomplish much.

The cooperative counties are: Albany, Allegany, Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Genesee, Greene, Herkimer, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Sullivan, Washington, Wayne, and Yates.

## Oklahoma figures talk

■ County and home demonstration agents of Oklahoma have gone all out in the production of poultry, eggs, and turkeys as a part of the food-for-freedom program, in compliance with the war effort for increased poultry and egg production. The agents are called upon to help rural and urban people solve a multitude of problems in carrying out an agricultural program.

The poultry information taken from the agents' annual statistical reports for 1944 shows that the agents and their community neighborhood leaders, poultry leaders, members of the farm women's clubs, and 4-H Club boys and girls have carried forward an expansive and constructive poultry program that has meshed well with the State's agricultural food-for-freedom production program.

The reports show that there were 104,000 farm families assisted in improved poultry practices during the year; 171 extension poultry schools were held by the extension poultryman, with a total attendance of 10,768 people (this does not include attendance at civic and commercial clubs); 2,348 new poultry houses were built, and 3,076 buildings were remodeled into poultry houses; 125 million dozen eggs, 20 million chickens, and 954,000 turkeys were produced within the State during the year.

There were 37 active county poultry associations that sponsored 35 county poultry shows where 7,243 birds were exhibited; the associations also sponsored 263 schoolhouse poul-

try and egg shows, representing 490 school districts; at these community poultry shows and schools, there were 9,141 birds and 1,457 dozen eggs exhibited. These school districts represented 263 community meetings, with an attendance of 14,685. Aside from the county and community shows, one State show was held, with 4,500 chickens and turkeys exhibited from 30 States and Canada.

The records reveal further that there were 12,803 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H poultry projects, and they raised 663,536 birds, valued at \$830,000. Because of the necessity for the older brothers and sisters to participate in the armed forces or war production work, 7,131 junior poultrymen replaced the older brothers and sisters in managing the poultry farm flocks. This has proved to be a fine demonstration because of the training it has offered these young people in agriculture and farm leadership.

Although there has been much cooperation from all agents, civic clubs, and commercial organizations, the main leadership for the development and carrying forward of this program must be accredited to the 187 county and home demonstration agents and their assistants, representing 77 Oklahoma counties, 24,560 farm women home demonstration members, 53,842 4-H Club members, and 22,228 neighborhood leaders who sponsor community meetings and carry forward timely and constructive information to people living in their respective neighborhoods.

The 1945 goals for the State are the same as for last year, and the poultry program is well under way to meet those goals.—*H. G. Ware, extension poultryman, Oklahoma A. & M. College.*

## Negro farmers set goals

The 10-point food and feed production program inaugurated by the South Carolina Extension Service has swung into action on the Negro farms of South Carolina.

More than 5,000 farmers attended 9 county, 112 community, and 77 neighborhood meetings during the first 2 weeks of the campaign to hear agricultural workers and community leaders explain how the 10 points may fit into the needs of their farms.

Reports coming in show that demonstrations and farm goals based on the 10-point program are being set up. Some are on a neighborhood basis; others are on individual farms.

The 10 points are: (1) Make maximum use of available labor and equipment on the farm and in the community; (2) arrange for quality planting seed; (3) arrange for heavy fertilizer application; (4) check farm and home equipment and order parts or new equipment early; (5) grow plenty of high-quality grazing, hay, and silage; (6) Produce record small-grain and corn crop; (7) produce adequate gardens, poultry, eggs, meat, and milk for every family and conserve for home use; (8) produce, grade, pack, and market quality products; (9) take care of the land and forest; (10) control crop and livestock diseases, insects, and parasites.

## Self-perpetuating sheep club

How to keep a sheep club going indefinitely was the subject of discussion on a Nebraska 4-H Club radio program, with Harry Kuska, Dawes County extension agent, and Everett Winter of the college doing the talking. The club started with a foundation gift of stock from which new members receive the ewe lambs while the buck lambs are sold or returned to the foundation in exchange for ewe lambs. Thus the club can be kept going without additional cost as new members are added or as new breeding stock may be required.

## What veterans want to do

Answers by servicemen to questions about their post-war plans prove to T. L. Wheeler, assistant supervisor, emergency farm labor, Ohio, that official planners may be overestimating the number of veterans who will want to buy farms or do farm work after the war.

Replies to the questions appear sincere because the 5,000 men who answered said the first thing they wanted after the war was a vacation, and 5 out of every 8 said they preferred to return to their former employment. Of the 1,775 who want a post-war change of work, only 8 percent wanted to become farmers.

More than one-third of the men were unskilled workers before the war, but almost half of the 5,000 want to go into business for themselves after the war. The preferences stated by this group were electrical supply shops, farming, food stores, aviation supplies, and clothing stores. The answers also showed that 56 percent of the men would accept educational training provided for veterans.

## A wartime party

Take 200 soldiers at an Army hospital, 75 home-baked cakes, and about 75 rural men and women (many of them with sons in uniform), and you have the ingredients of a successful party. That was the case not long ago when the Smith County, Tex., Home Demonstration Council gave a party at Camp Fannin Hospital.

The guests came on crutches and in wheel chairs, but most of them were able to participate in 45 minutes of fun, and all of them were able to eat.

Cakes were placed on tables, along with other refreshments, and each man was supplied with a knife to cut his own pieces—as big and as many as he wanted. One special table loaded with birthday cakes was set up for the men who celebrated birthdays that month.

During the party, the home demonstration club women and their husbands had an excellent opportunity to talk to the men. Some soldiers wanted to talk about fishing and

hunting, others about farming. Service men went back to their wards for pictures—to show the women where their own sons are now located.

Some among the group proved to be former 4-H Club members. Lorene Stevens, Smith County home demonstration agent, said two native Hawaiians were reluctant to say good-byes, for 4-H work proved to be one of few mutual interests, and they wanted to talk about it.

## County 4-H Club get-together

The shortage of farm help in Christian County, Ky., has resulted in many of the 700 4-H Club boys and girls taking the labor project. In addition, many of them are enrolled in four or five other projects.

To stimulate interest and maintain high morale among the club members, a county-wide get-together was held recently in the gymnasium of the Hopkinsville High School. Approximately 400 club members and parents were present, representing 21 of the 25 organized clubs in the county.

To make it possible for all to participate in the games, the boys and girls were divided into groups, each designated by a color and led by a leader who had been previously instructed. As directions were given over a microphone, all units took part in the same games.

Following a short motion picture, Barnyard Whoopie, the young people were ready for folk games. They made a circle that filled the entire gymnasium floor.

Refreshments of fruit juice and cookies, brought by each family, were served by the mothers of the 4-H Club members.

## Citrus culture as a 4-H project

The growing and care of citrus has been added to the list of 4-H Club projects in Los Angeles County, Calif.

Through the cooperation of a 4-H Club member's parents, the "ownership" and operation of a minimum of 1 acre of citrus is required. Several clubs in citrus areas already have members starting such work.

A club member must chart the orchard; keep a complete record of all

operations; and spend time on all phases of culture, including irrigation, pruning, weed, pest, and disease control, fertilization, frost protection, crop estimation, and marketing of fruit from mature orchards. In addition, the member must learn about planting and care of young trees.

## Slides do the teaching

"The most effective method of teaching rural people to improve their practices in 1944 was the showing of color slides which had been taken locally," writes R. W. Kallenbach, county agricultural agent, Polk County, Mo.

A total of 4,560 persons in 78 neighborhoods were encouraged to adopt improvements of one kind or another by seeing through color slides the successful practices being used by neighbors.

The slides dealt with many subjects. Some 125 of them were of 4-H projects and activities, and these formed the program for many a club meeting during the year. By showing contrasting photographs of treated and untreated plots, the use of soil treatments was encouraged.

Various phases of solving the soil-erosion problem were emphasized by slides which indicated the right way to construct terraces, build ponds, and do contour farming. Photos of many labor-saving devices, including self-feeders, waterers, buck rakes, and sweep rakes were popular.

Slides made of balanced farming operations stimulated interest in the complete planning program. More than 100 slides of local farm gardens taken on tours were shown. These emphasized practices such as succession plantings, long rows for using horse-drawn equipment, mulching, and insect-pest control. Some 3 dozen photos of small fruit production encouraged expansion of this work in the county.

■ Antioch 4-H Club girls of Howard County, Ark., are learning the basic principles of clothing construction and also helping the local hospital by making baby layettes, reports Francille Killion, home demonstration agent.

The hospital, faced with the shortage of baby garments on the market and with the labor shortage, is furnishing the materials; and the 4-H girls are making the needed garments and blankets.



# South Dakota homemakers write their own story

■ News and feature articles recording home demonstration work in South Dakota hold their own in newspapers and magazines of the State, even amidst the pressure of war news, directives, and announcements. This is not an accident but the result of a well-planned effort to present home demonstration activities in a dramatic and interesting way, developed by Nora M. Hott, State home demonstration leader; Extension Editor John Ryan; Mrs. Cleo Tyler, president; and Mrs. Albert Martinson, publicity director; and South Dakota Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

A successful phase of this program is the news- and feature-writing contest sponsored by the South Dakota Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, both in 1944 and 1945. This contest brought in a wealth of specific facts and new ideas about the work and, at the same time, gave the incentive to get them written up in an interesting way. The contest was open from December 1 to February 7 this year, and stories could be submitted on 23 different subjects.

The women submitted 588 stories which were first judged by an authority in the particular class in which the story was entered. For example, a garden story was judged by the head of the horticulture department at the college or a poultry story by the head of the poultry department. The first in each class was then submitted to a committee composed of 2 members of the journalism department, a representative of the South Dakota Press Association, and 2 homemakers who were ex-home demonstration agents.

Awards were given to 4 counties which had the greatest number of entries. The grand champion was awarded a \$50 war bond on her article, *What Home Demonstration Work has Meant to Me*; and the reserve champion, writing on *Food Preservation and Preparation*, also received a \$50 war bond. Awards were donated by newspapers, the Press Association, and commercial concerns.

The list of contest winners and the 2 winning articles were published in

all the newspapers of the State and are also being used in farm magazines and radio broadcasts. Other good stories among the 588 entries provide plenty of good material for future articles.

The press of the State and farm papers have followed the contest with interest. Two farm magazines asked for stories from last year's winner. Five or six of the articles were sold to magazines, and others were re-worked and used throughout the year. Editors assisted home demonstration agents and members of the extension editorial staff in giving writing schools in some counties and often offered prizes for the local winners.

The officers of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs felt that the contest proved to be a means of getting more stories of the actual accomplishments of farm families into the papers and appreciated the opportunity it gave them of getting acquainted with newspaper editors.

## Homemakers Used Ideas

These stories also gave recognition to homemakers who have been ingenious in the practice of homemaking in wartime or have made some use of the ideas gained in home demonstration work, making these women feel that they, too, are playing a very important part in the war effort.

Home Demonstration Agent Audrey McCollum tells how the contest worked in Lake County where 11 of 14 clubs participated with 49 entries. Thirty-one were eligible for the State contest, and 7 placed in the State contest. She writes:

"Publicity of winning essays following the announcement of winners has been far reaching. The secretary of the chamber of commerce said: 'We are ready to back any organization which reaches as many homes in the county and helps them with as many problems as home extension.'

"One homemaker asked me in the meat market one day: 'What's this home extension that I read so much about lately? My husband says I should get busy and go to some of your open meetings.'

"Many other types of clubs have inquired about extension possibilities for their groups. Other individuals have joined as county members where clubs did not seem possible at the time.

The news-writing contest is just one phase of the program to acquaint the general public with home demonstration activities.

State-wide support was given through the efforts of the State home demonstration publicity chairman and the extension editorial office. The chairman, Mrs. Albert Martinson, interviewed agents and specialists, read reports, and prepared a number of articles for magazines, including a pictorial cover page for the *Dakota Farmer*, entitled "The Home Demonstration Agent—the Busiest Person in the County." Similar pages were prepared and other suggestions given by the editorial staff for special farm editions of two daily papers. Special editorials were written by Miss Hott for three daily papers on the theme, "The Farm Woman's Part in the War Effort." Both were always ready with suggestions for stories.

Events which make good stories were developed. An attractive yellow and blue banner was awarded to 10 counties having the best records, and a quiz program based on the home demonstration projects for the year and patterned after "Take It or Leave It" was carried on 15 district programs. This was repeated at county achievement days and local meetings. County garden shows and special ceremonies for giving out the awards for the reading program given by the South Dakota Library Association proved good news pegs, as did also the vegetable preparation contest described in the *REVIEW* for November, 1944.

Greater emphasis was placed on window exhibits, and 10,000 copies of a new circular entitled "A home extension club helps you and through it you help your family, your community, and your Nation," prepared by Miss Hott, was distributed to key people. The home agents at Aberdeen and Yankton used regular weekly broadcasts to tell of the news-writing contest and interviewed the winners.

As a result of the program, 14 additional counties are asking for home demonstration agents; and 16,000 more homes were contacted last year.





## Extension agents join fighting forces

Nineteen extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,300 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days.

### Extension's Gold Stars

Here are two more to add to the list of gold stars. We have previously given details about 17 others.

Frank Winchester, senior assistant county agent in Pike County, Ky., in 1938, and later graduate assistant in the Farm Economics Department of the College of Agriculture, was killed in action in Germany on March 9, 1945. Mr. Winchester was a graduate of the Kentucky College of Agriculture and Home Economics, receiving both his B. S. and M. S. degrees.

Ralph Cundiff, killed in action on the western front, was the first Kentucky extension worker to make the supreme sacrifice in World War II. Upon graduation from Berea College in 1938, he became assistant county agent in Wayne County and then was appointed county agent in Clinton County where he served until joining the Army, October 31, 1942.

### THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last month)

#### KANSAS

Pvt. Reed C. Fleury, Scott County agent, Army.

Lt. (j.g.) Ray M. Hoss, extension economist, Navy.

Helen Shepard, S 1/c, Crawford County club agent.

Roderic H. Simpson, A/S, Gray County agent, Navy.

Beverly D. Stagg, S 2/c, Morris County agent, Navy.

Mary Ruth Vanskike, S 1/c, Labette County club agent, Navy.

Edward D. Watson.

#### NEW JERSEY

Ens. Ernest G. Christ, assistant extension horticulturist, pomology, Navy.

Pvt. Westervelt Griffin, assistant agent in Passaic County, Army.

Pvt. C. F. Lorenzo, Warren County agricultural agent, Army.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

L. B. Barbee, A/S, Davie County agent, Navy.

P. E. Brintnall, Swain County agent.

Cpl. Thomas H. Fagg, assistant agent, Macon County, Army.

Paul R. Fish, assistant agent, Swain County, (erroneously reported Paul P. Fish in September 1943 REVIEW).

Wayne L. Franklin, assistant agent, Haywood County.

A. N. Harrell, assistant agent, Davidson County.

H. H. Higgins, assistant agent, Yancey County.

W. W. Huff, assistant county agent.

C. H. Kirkman, Jr., assistant agent, Cherokee County.

Lt. (j.g.) J. E. Penland, assistant agent, Avery County, Navy.

A. W. Solomon, Negro agent, Bladen County (erroneously reported A. W. Soleman in September 1943 REVIEW).

J. D. Thompson, assistant agent, Wake County.

Pvt. Carl Whiteside, assistant agent, Cherokee County, Army.

F. L. Woodard, Mitchell County agent.

#### ALABAMA

Ens. Anita S. Albright, assistant home demonstration agent, Geneva County, Navy.

Pvt. Alrick H. Antonie, extension timber marketing specialist, Army.

Ens. T. W. Athey, Bullock County agent, Navy.

Jack H. Boyd, S 2/c, assistant agent, Lawrence County, Navy.

Lt. Charles L. Breedlove, assistant agent, Jefferson County, Army.

J. H. Davis, Ph. M. 3/c, assistant agent, Etowah County, Navy.

Ens. W. G. Eden, assistant agent, Geneva County, Navy.

Ross V. Ford, assistant agent, Winston County.

Pfc. W. B. Kelley, Dallas County agent, Army.

Ralph Musick, S 1/c, assistant agent, DeKalb County, Navy.

Pfc. D. M. Nordan, assistant agent, Pickens County, Army.

Maj. Ellwood F. Oakley, Jr., assistant agent, Autauga County, Army.

Ens. Robert W. Rhodes, assistant agent, Mobile County, Navy.

Lt. E. L. Waddell, assistant agent, Madison County, Army.

Pvt. Taylor D. Wilkins, emergency farm labor assistant, Baldwin County, Army.

Sgt. John C. Witherspoon, assistant extension forester, Army.

Lt. Joseph H. Yeager, assistant agent, Marshall County, Army.

K. L. Yerby, farm labor assistant, Fayette County.

#### LOUISIANA

T-5 James J. Robert, assistant agent, Pointe Coupee Parish, Army.

Thomas E. Zammit, S 4/c, Navy.



# Selling bonds for bombers

■ Georgia's enterprising 4-H Club members, who set an example 2 years ago in selling bonds for a Liberty Ship that has been followed by more than 30 States, have launched a war bond drive to purchase 12 Georgia-built B-29 superforts.

The 3-month campaign, which has been approved by the Georgia War Finance Committee, will seek to raise \$7,500,000 for the construction of the superforts and a headquarters unit for the squadron of B-29's, according to W. A. Sutton, State 4-H Club leader.

The drive is being made at the same time the Seventh War Loan is in progress, and only Series E, F, and G war savings bonds bought or sold by the club members will count in the campaign.

This will be the second major war bond drive undertaken by Georgia 4-H Club members. In 1943 they conceived the idea of buying and selling enough bonds to pay for a \$2,000,000 Liberty Ship. This drive was so successful that five Liberty Ships were constructed with bonds bought and sold by the members.

When the S. S. Hoke Smith, named for the Georgia Senator who helped enact legislation creating the Agricultural Extension Service and 4-H Club work, was christened in Savan-

nah, Georgia members became the first in the Nation to launch such a ship.

The Georgia drive proved so successful that the U. S. Maritime Commission and the U. S. Treasury Department gave 4-H Clubs in each State the privilege of buying and selling bonds for a Liberty Ship. 4-H Clubs in more than 30 States have followed Georgia's lead.

The superfort bond campaign is directed by county agricultural and home demonstration agents throughout Georgia. Weekly reports are made to the State office, and these reports are broadcast on the Saturday 4-H Club radio program over WSB in Atlanta.

During 1944, when no special campaign was in progress, Georgia 4-H members bought and sold more than \$10,000,000 worth of war bonds. They have been active in food production and in salvage drives. They have worked long, hard hours on the farm to make up for the loss of other labor.

The drive was planned by members of the Georgia 4-H Club Council, headed by Virginia Kite of Johnson County, at a meeting of the council.—*J. P. Carmichael, acting editor, Georgia Agricultural Extension Service.*

some beef cattle and swine, and turkeys, too. I'd also like to work with 4-H boys and girls and help them have one of the biggest clubs in the United States."

The Veterans Assistance Committee of the Rusk County, Tex., agricultural Victory Council sent off a similar questionnaire. About 45 percent of the men replying expressed a wish to engage in farming.

SLIDEFILMS recently prepared by the Extension Service, the Bureaus of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering are:

Nos. 654, the County Agent; 655, The County Home Demonstration Agent; 656, Home-Grown Plants for Transplanting; 657, a Back-Yard Vegetable Garden; 658, Canning Chicken; 660, Canning Fruits and Tomatoes; and 661, Canning Vegetables Steam Pressure Way. Copies have been deposited for inspection with the agricultural editor at your State Agricultural College.

ITS OWN BEST EXHIBIT is the Graphic Extensioner Number 1, issued by the New York State Extension Service. It is a beautiful piece of mimeographing and contains suggestions to help others attain the same ends such as "How to Cut Stencils." The publication contains three pages of useful drawings to illustrate circular letters and such.

■ Wayne County, Mich., 4-H Clubs and Future Farmers joined the USDA Club of Detroit at their February meeting. They watched Federal inspection and grading of meats at a large food products company and heard the inspectors tell how it was done.

■ Each community home demonstration club in Marion County, S. C., has selected the mother who has the greatest number of children in the armed services, and to this mother the club has presented a sufficient number of fruit trees for a good home orchard.

"This has a twofold purpose," says Juanita Neely, assistant State home demonstration agent. "One, gives recognition to families; and two, starts a demonstration orchard in each community."

## What the G. I. wants

■ Looking ahead to the post-war years, the Eastland County, Tex., Agricultural Victory Council wrote to all the men in the armed service who had gone from their county. They asked the G. I.'s if they had any plans for the future and offered assistance to those who expressed an interest in farming. From their answers, the committee now can devise plans for helping these veterans get established, once demobilization gets under way.

Floyd Lynch, Eastland County agricultural agent, says that, without exception, the men welcome news from home and the knowledge that organized volunteer groups are interested in their welfare. Some plan to remain

in the armed services for a while; others want to continue their education, and a few still have no definite plans, the replies show.

A corporal expressed an interest to "own my own farm after the war if there is any plan whereby I can borrow money to get started." This word came from a sergeant: "I'd prefer a large portion of my land in grass for cattle raising. It doesn't have to be in any certain community just so it is in Eastland County." Another private said he hoped to take a course at A. and M. College and then do dairy farming.

One zealous G. I. wrote: "When I get out of the Army, I should like to buy a farm and get dairy cattle and





# Flashes

## FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Can what you can.** Home Canning of Meat is the title of AWI-110, in which complete, illustrated directions for canning meat and poultry are given. The directions are based on studies made in the laboratories of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. As a result of this research, a temperature of 10 degrees lower than was formerly approved is recommended—240°F. instead of 250°. (This is equivalent to 10 pounds pressure instead of 15 pounds.) Processing times have been shortened as much as is considered safe for adequate sterilization, and directions for a raw pack as well as a hot pack are given where both methods give satisfactory results. Tin cans or glass jars can be used. Directions should be followed faithfully. Because meat is so scarce this season, it is more important than ever that none be wasted. Canning is a splendid way to take care of hens culled from the flock this summer—2-year-old hens are better for canning than spring chickens. But don't fry poultry *before* canning. Get a copy of the leaflet from the Department.

■ **End results of plant breeding.** Forty-three new varieties of crop plants were released last year by the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering. Just what does it mean to "release" a new variety? First, an announcement with a description of the plant is sent to seed trade and other agricultural publications. Seed is then supplied to seed producers who request it. These producers, by growing plants from the seed and collecting seed from the new crop, increase the stocks and make seed available for sale through the normal trade channels. It usually takes 2 years or more from the time of the first announcement for seed of a new variety to become generally available to growers through retail outlets. New varieties are released by

the agency that developed them; if more than one agency, such as a State agricultural experiment station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, cooperated in the breeding work, the release is cooperative. Growers interested in finding out where to get seed with the least possible delay may write to the releasing agency or to the nearest State experiment station for information as to the first sources of supply.

■ **And now—turkey eggs?**—Ever eat a turkey egg? Maybe you will be choosing between turkey and chicken eggs some time in the future. For the new Beltsville Small White turkey, developed for modern small families, is turning out to be a prolific layer. Old-time turkeys ordinarily lay 40 to 60 eggs during the spring months and few if any during the rest of the year. Two of the small-type turkeys bred at the Beltsville Research Center laid an exceptionally large number of eggs in 1944—211 and 206, respectively. Turkey eggs are about one and a half times as large as the average chicken egg and have a somewhat tougher shell. In taste and color of yolks and whites, the 2 kinds of eggs are much the same, and weight for weight they have about equal nutritive value. But don't expect to have a poached turkey egg on your toast tomorrow morning—though turkey eggs are especially good for poaching because the yolk holds its shape well. Much work is still to be done. And besides, chickens take less feed for an equal quantity of egg and are, therefore, more efficient and economical producers.

■ **DDT progress report.** A fact sheet giving the results of 2 years' testing of DDT insecticides has been prepared by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. This 3½-page mimeographed statement is available on application to the bureau in Washington. DDT cannot be recommended

yet for farm or home use. It must first be determined whether the insecticides containing it will harm crops and soils, and how they can be used so as not to kill great numbers of beneficial and useful insects. Continued experiments are being carried on as rapidly as facilities permit.

## A wholesome trend

One of the most wholesome trends in rural life in Texas is an awakening to the need of recreation in homes and communities.

Just recently, for instance, the house rules committee for the community recreation hall at Conroe has given permission for rural children of the county to use the hall every Saturday afternoon. So, while their parents shop or attend to other necessary business, the children can be pleasantly occupied in supervised fun. Hallie Peters, assistant county home demonstration agent in Montgomery County, is in charge of activities at the hall on Saturday afternoons. And she reports that this community recreation center is being used to good advantage.

Home demonstration and 4-H Clubs, long sold on recreation, know the word implies much more than just "games." A "hobby show" in Hamilton County recently drew nearly a thousand spectators and more than 200 contributors. In that same county, folks of the Liberty community gather annually for a big Thanksgiving dinner at the school. Several clubs in Deaf Smith County do this, but the Westway Home Demonstration Club in that county goes a step further. Its members give a community party honoring every service man who comes home on leave or furlough.

"Play nights" for entire families are popular in Angelina County. The Chapman Ranch Club in Navarro County sponsored 24 outstanding community events last year—picnics and basket suppers in the summer, 42 parties in the wintertime. The Currie Club in that same county reported wiener roasts, ice cream suppers, a barbecue, and at Easter time there was a picnic for the adults and an egg hunt for the youngsters.—Mrs. Eloise Trigg Johnson, specialist in family life education, Texas.



# *We Study Our Job*

A former extension director and president of the college gives us a first-hand account of the recent evaluation workshop in Chicago. Wartime travel restrictions limited the attendance to 20 persons. Because of the nature of the instruction given the participants, these were persons now carrying on or directing research in some specific study of extension work.

**F. L. BALLARD, Oregon State Extension Supervisor  
War Food Production and Conservation**

I attended the evaluation workshop at the University of Chicago March 12 to 24. It was a new type of extension conference. Consideration was given under highly skilled direction to principles to consider in evaluating extension accomplishments and methods. Dr. Ralph W. Tyler, acting head of social sciences and chairman of the Department of Graduate Education, and three of his staff, Dr. C. O. Houle, Dr. M. L. Hartung, and Dr. Shailer Peterson, gave first place in their plans in this period to assisting the extension workers. There were lectures in the morning, consultations with university staffmen by selected groups in the afternoon, personal conferences, special lectures, and committee meetings in the evening. Groups and individuals prepared study outlines for a list of selected problems under this experienced direction. It was a busy period, and productive.

The group of extension workers was drawn from a wide range of professional experiences in 10 States and the Washington office. From the States were: Beatrice Billings, State leader of home economics extension in Massachusetts; Dorothy DeLany, assistant State club leader in New York; and H. F. McFeeley, assistant specialist in marketing, New Jersey, to represent the East; Jewell Garland, leader, rural organization and recreation, Mississippi; and J. P. Leagans, program planning specialist, North Carolina, came from the South. From the Middle West came L. M. Busche, assistant county agent leader, Indiana; Nellie Watts, assistant State home demonstration agent leader, Ohio; and H. P. Hanson, assistant State supervisor of emergency farm labor program, Minnesota. Lorene Dryden, specialist in clothing from Arizona, and I came in from the far West. The

Washington office was represented by Dr. Gladys Gallup, Dr. Barnard Joy, Fred Jans, Eunice Heywood, K. W. Ingwalson, Mary Louise Collings, Mrs. Laurel Sabrosky, and Alice Sundquist. Ruth B. McCammon and Thelma Dreis were there from the Nutrition Programs Branch.

Observers and advisers for brief periods were Director M. L. Wilson; Dr. Bonney Youngblood, Office of Experiment Stations; and Dr. Charles P. Loomis, Michigan State College.

High lights were general agreement that Extension has about completed its establishment period and in the immediate postwar should start its fulfillment period; that building for the future requires evaluation of the past, and that a sound evaluation is a distinctly scientific process involving extension research in a volume and of degrees of thoroughness not yet fully realized.

Evaluation leads two ways, it was thought. One is to establish a measure of accomplishment. This should reach beyond mere numbers and extent of practices influenced to the broader aspects of attitudes, self-reliance, and general social adjustments. The second direction is toward determining the advantages of different methods of organization, teaching practices, and program building.

High dividends would result from much expanded research in these fields, it was agreed.

Future accomplishments will be speeded, it was brought out, when more light can be shed upon everyday questions rising with increasing frequency as the tempo of extension accelerates because of tremendous continuing growth in demands for its services.

For example, in one of the laboratory sections attention settled upon

the question of load of county extension agents. Program organization plans must include consideration of personnel numbers. Any sound outlook for adequate State service involves estimating staff members required. Questions here were: How many families can an extension agent serve effectively? What are the factors bearing upon this determination? As additional agents are added to county staffs, in what fields of extension should they be trained? To what extent can a single agent, or two agents, meet the needs of a county? Which is most effective county organization, administrative organization or direct contact?

Groups were organized to outline studies which, it seemed, would throw light on such questions. Just enough progress was made to point to ultimate possibilities, it seemed. Validity of methods proposed for this investigational work was greatly clarified by the university staff.

Establishment of a workable personnel rating system, specialists' teaching methods, effectiveness of radio and visual education were other topics given consideration by the group. Another of growing importance was consideration of methods to reach both high- and low-income groups, including part-time farmers. That different methods are necessary in effectively reaching different social strata, racial groups, and sometimes religious groups was generally agreed; but the techniques to be employed are still to be developed.

I thought when we had finished the workshop that new dimensions had been added to old ideas, many new ideas had been developed, and the point had been well made that research in extension analogous to the extension research in more formal educational methods has undeveloped values.

It seemed to me also that the workshop type of conference is worth trying in various modifications in the States. It would break the pattern of conferences which may now be a little monotonous and shopworn. It has many values if the plan is well thought out and organized carefully.



# Among Ourselves



■ MARY ELLEN BROWN, State home demonstration leader in Nebraska, is retiring July 1 after 28 years of pioneering in work with homemaking education.

Born in an early pioneering Nebraska farm home, Miss Brown has always known the challenges and difficulties of the rural home. Her father, as a young bridge builder, helped push the original line of the Union Pacific out across the Nebraska plains. Her mother, coming to the State in 1867, was one of Nebraska's earliest teachers, teaching in a small one-room school in the country northwest of Fremont and then in the newly organized town of Fremont.

Miss Brown's early training was in a rural school. After teaching in the Fremont public schools, she went to Lincoln and taught there before continuing her studies at the University of Nebraska. In 1909, she entered the Department of Home Economics and upon her graduation taught in that department. She joined the Agricultural Extension Service in 1917 as assistant 4-H Club leader. She wrote the first circular for 4-H clothing clubs and revised the foods circulars to adapt them to 4-H age. Miss Brown has always felt that new developments were important in the growth of the Extension Service and

were necessary for growth and originality. With this in mind, she helped organize the keep-well project in 4-H Club work. Miss Brown says that she believes people should be given ideas which they can work out in their own way, and she has followed that plan in all her work with the Extension Service.

In 1923, Miss Brown was asked to take the directorship of the women's work in the Agricultural Extension Service. Home demonstration work then was with individual clubs. The number of project clubs grew until a new system of educational work was developed with two leaders for each club. There are now 1,220 home demonstration clubs in 88 Nebraska counties with a membership of 17,850 women. In addition to the organization of home demonstration clubs, Miss Brown organized Nebraska study clubs. When radio came into use, the program entitled "Mrs. True Homemaker" was originated by Miss Brown on KFAB.

Miss Florence Atwood will succeed Miss Brown on her retirement. Miss Atwood, now with the Farm Security Administration, is a graduate of the University of Nebraska. She was a home demonstration agent in Dakota County and then was a specialist in foods and nutrition with the Agricultural Extension Service. In 1936, she went with FSA. Miss Atwood studied at Michigan State College and received her master's degree there. Her home is in Lincoln. She has been president of the Nebraska Home Economics Association.

■ PROF. W. R. BALLARD has retired from active duty as Maryland extension horticulturist after 39 years of continuous service on the staff of the University of Maryland.

A graduate of Kansas State Agricultural College in 1905, Professor Ballard came to the university in February of the following year to handle the testing of varieties of fruit and carry on breeding work with pears, apples, and grapes for the Agricultural Experiment Station. During 1918, he was placed in charge of the State garden contest initiated by the

State Food Administrator. At the close of World War I he taught horticulture at the university and did investigational work with small fruits for 1 year before being appointed extension horticulturist, a position he has held until retirement.

In cooperation with the county agricultural agents, he conducted for several years demonstrations in the growing of tomato plants in outdoor beds. His popular bulletin, *More Tomatoes from Fewer Acres*, went through many editions. He has spent much time in the field of ornamental horticulture, conducting landscape demonstrations in all parts of the State. At one time a study course in flower growing was conducted in cooperation with home demonstration agents, with a total enrollment of more than 2,500 farm women. For 17 years he has edited a monthly leaflet entitled *Ornamental Gardening Notes*, which has a popular appeal throughout the State.

Professor Ballard has been in demand as a speaker for garden clubs and as a judge of horticultural exhibits and gardens. He assisted for many years with the final judging of gardens in the contest sponsored by the Women's Civic League and the *Baltimore Evening Sun*.

For more than 20 years, he served as secretary-treasurer of the Maryland Vegetable Growers' Association. In cooperation with Dr. R. A. Jehle, State pathologist, he staged a potato show in connection with the annual farm and home meetings in Baltimore.

He has authored numerous university bulletins and leaflets on horticulture and many articles in various newspapers and magazines, including a garden column in the *Southern Planter*.

In his retirement, Professor Ballard plans to devote his time to the breeding of narcissus, iris, roses, day lilies, and other plants, and also to continue writing about horticultural subjects.

■ W. J. JERNIGAN, Arkansas 4-H Club agent, was selected as Man of the Year for his State by the editors of *The Progressive Farmer*.



# Veteran 4-H leaders

■ Jackson County, Ky., boasts of six men and women who have served 30 years as 4-H Club leaders. Five of them attended the celebration observing the thirtieth anniversary of extension work in the county.

The sixth, Uncle John S. Lakes, now 84 years old, was too ill to attend. Until the past 2 years, Uncle John was active as leader of the Wind Cave 4-H Club, and he still participates in club meetings. Of him County Agent Walker R. Reynolds says: "Uncle John Lakes is loved by all people of the county and is known as a wise counselor and an independent leader."

and a son have been along the 4-H trail and are respected citizens. The little one-room school in which club meetings were held for 20 years has given way to a new modern school structure, largely through the influence of Mr. Gabbard and his 4-H Clubbers.

Mrs. Ida Abney, leader of the Corner Oak Club, has lived on a farm where she raised chickens and did housework and, at the same time, taught school through all these 30 years. A son, Jack Abney, was Kentucky State corn champion in 1934 when he grew 144 bushels on an acre. The Abney farm has under-



Thirty years in extension work in Jackson County, Ky. Left to right: Mrs. Nannie D. Hays, 4-H Club leader at Tyner and Knapp Hill; R. E. Taylor, Pigeon-roost 4-H Club leader; Jake Gabbard, 4-H Club leader at Indian Creek since 1914; Daniel M. Ward, club leader at New Zion, Muncy, and Gray Hawk; and Mrs. Ida Abney, 4-H Club leader at Corner Oak.

The first real 4-H Club program in Jackson County was organized by County Agent Reynolds at Pigeon-roost in 1914. Charter members included four daughters and three sons of R. E. Taylor, who soon took over the leadership of the club. Under his guidance, many community improvements were made, such as an addition to the school, swinging bridges so school children could always reach school, and improvement of cemetery, school, and church grounds.

Jake Gabbard for 30 years has been the guiding spirit of 4-H Club work at Indian Creek. His three daughters

gone constant improvement in the 30 years that Mrs. Abney and her husband have been interested in extension work.

Daniel M. Ward has been a 4-H Club leader at New Zion, Muncy, and Gray Hawk.

Mrs. Nannie D. Hays, another 30-year 4-H Club leader, is the eldest child of County Agent Reynolds. In fact, she was both 4-H Club leader and member during the period of 1914 to 1919. Her first club was at Tyner. Later, she guided the Knapp Hill club, where she trained a State championship demonstration team. It was largely through the Knapp Hill

4-H Club that Tyner school was consolidated as a two-teacher school and finally became the Jackson County High School.

## In appreciation of Director Ramsower

An appropriate close for Farmers' Week was the dinner given in honor of Harry C. Ramsower, in recognition of his 25 years of service as director of Agricultural Extension in Ohio. This happy occasion was attended by about 350 extension workers and friends. Abundant proof of the high regard extension workers have for the director was presented by the 7 speakers, all of whom have been more or less closely associated with the director in extension work and could speak from personal observation and experience.

Veteran Extensioner A. B. Graham told of the development of Ohio extension work through the years, and made frequent mention of Director Ramsower resembling a "King Bee." To Dean John F. Cunningham went the job of directing the evening's proceedings. He presented Director Ramsower with a collection of congratulatory letters from 31 States. Ohio State University's president, Howard Bevis, aptly described Director Ramsower as "a great force in the extension of Extension."

R. D. Barden had a big time demonstrating that "In Union There Is Strength" by putting the shotgun gift together for a grateful director. The gift, complete with hand-tooled case, was handled fondly for a long time by the director who then laid it aside to tell the 350-odd well-wishers: "I am deeply impressed and profoundly grateful. And I can say that I have truly enjoyed working with farm men and women who live upon and till the soil. My wish for a great quarter-century to come is centered on progress that will bring new joy of living to Ohio farm families."

■ 4-H Club members from 19 Tennessee counties marketed approximately 80,000 pounds of roasting chickens during a series of cooperative sales, according to J. C. Powell, assistant extension marketing specialist in Tennessee.

The bulk of this choice poultry meat went to dressing plants supplying the armed services.



# The once-over

## Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**STEVE DEBNAM, TEXAS COUNTY AGENT**—one of those written up in the article, "20 Who Fed a Nation," appearing in the May Farm Journal and condensed in Reader's Digest, is an extension man from 'way back. In fact, Assistant Director H. H. Williamson recalls that in 1920 young Debnam, then a 4-H Club boy, was a member of the champion cattle-judging team at the Southeastern Fair in Atlanta, Ga. The victory gave the team a chance at the Royal Livestock Show in England, and they were winners there, too, in 1921. Mr. Williamson was then Texas State Boys' club agent.

**A MEMORIAL FOREST** with a pine tree for every boy in the service was recently planted in the Hagerstown, Md., watershed. The city bought the trees, and the 4-H Club boys planted them under the direction of Harry Dengler, extension forester. A native son who had been in a prison camp accepted the tribute in the name of the boys at the fighting front. Donald Frush, a 15-year-old 4-H Club boy with 4 brothers and 2 brothers-in-law in the service, rode over the forest in an airplane during the ceremony scattering hemlock seed. The forest contains 7,000 trees.

**H. H. WARNER, DIRECTOR OF HAWAII**, now on official leave in the Pacific directing production of fresh vegetables for our fighting men, wrote "Just a week ago I returned from a 3 weeks' inspection trip in the Marianas. We now have 1,400 acres under cultivation on the three islands and are well on our way to the goal of 3,500 acres by August 1. We have enjoyed better rains there than usual at this time of the year and have harvested nearly 700 tons of stuff to date. You should see the pictures of the boys on Iwo up to their ears in watermelons which we are flying there regularly from Guam and Tinian. That's the sort of thing which makes this assignment so satisfying."

**THE WARTIME VERSION** of Nebraska's traditional Feeders Day—the thirty-third annual—went over the radio without some of the tradition of a "folksy" day but still carried

the latest information on livestock experimental work and livestock production in general.

**IN HONOR OF CARL E. LADD**, a memorial scholarship fund is being raised among his many friends. This fund will be used to encourage and help farm boys and girls to get an agricultural college education which will contribute to their development of leadership. Dean of New York State College of Agriculture, 1932-1943, Carl Ladd was a farm leader with an abiding faith and interest in boys and girls; and it seems especially appropriate that those who have come under his influence would want to perpetuate this interest.

**TEXAS 4-H BOYS** are paying a neighborly visit to Mexican youth May 28 to June 7. The 24 Texas boys were chosen for their achievements in community leadership, war work, and production, as well as character and personality. Their average age is about 17 years, and the average of their experience in club work is 5½ years. On May 31, at a banquet in Mexico City, the boys entertained 24 Mexican boys of corresponding age and agricultural experience. Mexican agricultural leaders and officials also attended. The boys are traveling to Mexico City by automobile and having the opportunity to see how farming is done south of the border. State 4-H

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Boys' Club Leader L. L. Johnson and Dr. E. H. Shinn, field agent, 4-H Club work for the Southern States, accompanied the boys.

**RURAL HEALTH IN VIRGINIA** was given special attention last month when all home demonstration clubs, women's clubs, parent-teacher associations, and the farm organizations devoted their programs to a better understanding of rural-health conditions and problems and to a study of their solution. Several years ago, the officers of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs asked the Division of Rural Sociology of the Agricultural Experiment Station to make a study of rural health and medical care. This study, made under the sponsorship of the Rural Health and Medical Care Committee,—a volunteer group composed of State-wide and civic organizations, several State agencies, the two medical schools, the State Medical Society, members of the press, and others—will furnish an excellent basis for further action.

**H. B. DERR**, retired county agent from Virginia, was in the office recently full of enthusiasm for his old hobby, collecting specimens of insects injurious to plants. He now has six exhibits with many hundreds of specimens, including insects attacking orchard crops, farm crops, and garden crops, and an exhibit on the Japanese beetle. Last month he took his exhibits to Farmville Teachers College and Harrisonburg Teachers College. His ambition is to eliminate insect and disease waste in Victory Gardens.

**COMMUNITY AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM** of Kiwanis International was announced in their May magazine. The program has three phases; the first concerned with soil conservation, the second emphasizing planning and encouraging businessmen to help in building an economically sound agriculture and the third developing new and better markets for local farm products. The soil conservation phase of the program was announced and the motion picture "It Can Happen Here" had its premier showing in Richmond, Ind., the home State of Secretary Wickard, on May 9 with many agricultural leaders present. It is expected that local Kiwanis Clubs will be getting in touch with county agricultural agents for assistance in the development of the work locally.